



**IMHE**  
Institutional Management in Higher Education

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This newsletter is aimed at Regional Co-ordinators and others interested in the OECD work on higher education in regions. The main purpose is to keep you informed about progress made in the OECD Reviews of Higher Education in Regional and City Development. You are welcome to contribute to the contents for example, by informing the OECD Higher Education and Regions Team about related events and meetings; email: [HEregions@oecd.org](mailto:HEregions@oecd.org)

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***Key News***

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**Higher Education in Cities and Regions**  
- For Stronger, Cleaner and Fairer Regions

**10-11 February 2011 OECD Conference: Higher Education in Cities and Regions - For Stronger, Cleaner and**

## **Fairer Regions**

Seville, Spain

In the context of global economic and financial crisis, OECD countries are seeking to mobilise HEIs to support more strongly their economic, social and cultural development. Drawing on the OECD reviews and other studies, this conference will look at innovative ways in how HEIs can make their cities and regions stronger, cleaner and fairer. It will highlight key issues in human capital development and innovation and identify ways of transforming universities.

This international conference will be organised with the Regional Government of Andalusia and hosted by the University of Seville, brings together policy makers and practitioners; public and private bodies concerned with regional development; leaders and managers of HEIs; and those responsible for knowledge transfer, regional development and community liaison at HEIs.

The programme is under construction. Higher education and regions team invites you to make suggestions for speakers. Read about the conference and Andalusia [www.oecd.org/edu/imhe/regional/conference](http://www.oecd.org/edu/imhe/regional/conference)

The online registration is available [here](#).

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## ***Previous Events***

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### **18-20 October 2010 OECD LEED Trento Centre/IMHE seminar: Universities, skills and entrepreneurship**

This seminar included a mix of case study presentations and creative group activities. Guided by an OECD criteria list of good practice in local entrepreneurship support, participants worked on individual action plans that will help their organisations to contribute to and benefit from partnership working in entrepreneurship support. Programme & presentations are available [here](#).

### **15-16 September 2010 OECD Roundtable on Higher Education in Regional and City Development**

The second roundtable meeting attracted nearly 90 participants from HEIs from 23 countries. The meeting provided opportunities to discuss how to take full advantage of the OECD reviews. It highlighted innovative approaches in widening access and talent attraction, regional innovation, Green Growth and urban regeneration. New regions interested in the reviews – Singapore, Wrocław and North East of Scotland - were presented in the meeting. Programme & presentations are available [here](#).

### **13-15 September 2010 IMHE General Conference Higher education in a world changed utterly: doing more with less**

The IMHE biennial conference attracted 468 participants from 62 countries. The conference focused on changing business models for higher education, technological advances and growing international competition.

The conference included a well attended session on Higher Education in Cities & Regions - How to create and lead an entrepreneurial and locally engaged university? Moderated by Jaana PUUKKA, it brought together HE leaders Helena NAZARÉ, former Rector of the University of Aveiro, Francesc GRAU, Rector of the Universtat Rovira i Virgili and John GODDARD, Professor Emeritus, former Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the University of Newcastle upon Tyne who shared their experiences on the challenges and opportunities in leading locally engaged universities.



The materials are available [here](#).

### ***Third Round***

#### **Review visit of Free State**

The third round of reviews were kicked off with the review of Free State, South Africa in October 2010. The review visit was led by Jaana PUUKKA and supported by Patrick DUBARLE (former OECD, FR), Holly MCKIERNAN (Lumina Foundation, US), Jairam REDDY (former Vice Chancellor of the University of Durban Westville, SA), Akilagpa SAWYERR (former Secretary-General of the Association of African Universities, GH) and Philip WADE (former OECD, FR/US).

Centrally located, the Free State Province (population 2.8 million) is the third largest of the nine provinces in South Africa. Historically, the economy of the Free State has been dominated by agriculture and mining which are now in decline. The Free State history is characterised by power and land struggles, forced removals and exclusion and segregation, ensuring separate and unequal development of population groups. The province has registered notable progress in many realms of society since the end of apartheid, but considerable challenges remain in socio-economic development and in bridging the gaps between population groups. The key problem for Free State is job creation. Low labour market participation and high unemployment rates, particularly among the young, with marked differences between population groups are a drag on regional economy.

The University of the Free State (UFS) has an enrolment of close to 30 600 students. It hosts centres that are relevant to regional development, e.g. the Centre of Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development and the Centre for Health Systems Research and Development that engages in top level research concerning health systems and prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis. With its president Jonathan JANSEN, the university has embarked on improving the quality of the institution to boost the knowledge production. Under the leadership of Chancellor Thandwa MTHEMBU, the Central University of Technology (CUT) has focused its efforts to boost regional development. Its forthcoming African Entrepreneurship Centre aims to facilitate SMME creation. The OECD review report will be published in spring 2011.

#### **Regions can now sign up for the third round of reviews**

More regions can now sign up for the third round of Reviews of Higher Education in Regional and City Development. The third round will benefit mainly regions and cities having IMHE member institutions. Read more about the third round [here](#).

### ***Second Round***

The second round of reviews is heading towards completion. All review visit have now taken place, the last one being the review visit of Lombardy, 13 self-evaluation reports and 5 review reports have been published on the website. Several review reports are awaiting feedback from their regions.

#### **Review Visit of Lombardy**

Jaana PUUKKA led the OECD review of higher education in regional and city development of the Lombardy region. The review visit was supported by the OECD/LEED Trento Centre. The review team was Susan CHRISTOPHERSON (Cornell University, US), Patrick DUBARLE (former OECD, FR), Maria Helena NAZARE (former rector of University Aveiro, PT), Giuseppe RONSISVALLE (University of Catania, IT) and Andrea HOFER (OECD/LEED).

Lombardy is Italy's largest region with a population of ten million, 15% of the population are migrants which represents the most entrepreneurial segment of the society. One out of ten Lombardians live in Milan. The Lombardy region stands out in the European landscape because of its diverse economy, which includes a financial capital of Europe, Milan, and one of the continent's most productive agricultural sectors. Lombardy produces more than 20% of the national GDP. There are about 900 000 companies. The region has a abundance of people in the arts, design fields, and craft fields which provide the basis for creativity.

Despite its unusual strengths and resiliency, the Lombardy economy faces challenges in maintaining its distinctive global position and regional resilience over the longer term. In part because of its strong SME base, the region is not moving quickly enough to a "knowledge economy" model. This is evidenced by low educational attainment, high graduate unemployment and a lack of responsiveness of higher education sector to the emerging labour market. The OECD review report will be published in spring 2011.

### **The OECD/World Bank Bío Bío Review Report**



The Bío Bío Region has pioneered regional development in Chile. It has a high concentration of higher education and research activity. Its universities and other higher education institutions have made significant progress in widening access to education. But challenges remain: the Bío Bío region continues to suffer from brain drain as well as higher than average unemployment and poverty rates. The joint OECD and World Bank review explores a range of helpful policy measures and institutional reforms to mobilise higher education for the development of the Bío Bío region. The OECD/World Bank review report in English has been published. Read the report [here](#). The publication of the Spanish version will take place in Concepción in mid-December.

### **The OECD Paso del Norte Review Report**



The Paso del Norte Region is the largest metropolitan area on the US-Mexican border, with Ciudad Juárez as a major manufacturing centre. However, the economic performance on both sides of the border region is below the OECD average. The long-term competitiveness of the region is under a threat due to ongoing violence, brain drain and environmental degradation. To break out of the low skill/low wage economy, Paso del Norte needs to improve educational attainment levels on both sides of the border. It will also need to foster new business formation and provide jobs and entrepreneurial skills to higher education graduates. Read the report [here](#).

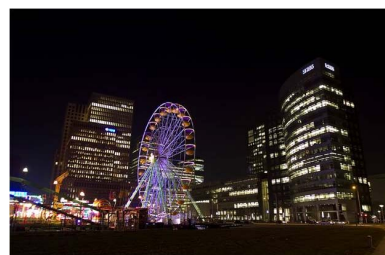
The Paso del Norte Review Report was published at the 7th Annual Border Security Conference at the University of Texas in El Paso, in August 2010. This high level annual meeting attracted over 600 participants, including the US Ambassador to Mexico and the Mexican Ambassador to the US. Unlike earlier conferences, this event had a focus not only on border security, but also on socio-economic development initiatives across the border region.

### **The OECD Rotterdam Review Report**



Outside the Netherlands Rotterdam is best known for its port – once the busiest in the world, and still the busiest in Europe. A young and dynamic city, Rotterdam is one of the few cities in Europe where the average age of the population is decreasing. It is ethnically and culturally diverse and has high potential for attracting the creative class. Read the report [here](#). The Rotterdam Review Report was published at the dissemination meeting in Rotterdam on the 10 of September 2010.

Marianne DONKER, Chief Science Officer for the Municipality of Rotterdam is the new regional co-ordinator for Rotterdam, replacing Monique DE KNEGT. We would like to thank Monique for all her hard work over the last two year in the review process and wish her the best of luck in her future endeavours. We would also like to welcome Marianne DONKER to her new position.



### The OECD Amsterdam Review Report

Amsterdam has the characteristics of creativeness, openness and diversity that make it attractive to global talent and young population. It has strong research universities and excellent transport infrastructure including one of the world's leading airports. It is the financial capital of the Netherlands and home to many multinational companies. Amsterdam's cultural and architectural heritage have ensured that it is better-known globally than many cities twice its size. However, the Amsterdam metropolitan region still has unfulfilled potential. This report looks at how to encourage effective interaction between the higher education sector and the region, not simply on the transfer of technology and knowledge but on the mobility and skills of people. Read the report [here](#).



### The OECD Berlin Review Report

Berlin is a creative city attracting talent from around the world. The Berlin Senate has made great strides in developing innovation as a pillar of its economy. But challenges remain: there is long-term unemployment, a low absorptive capacity in small and medium-sized enterprises and a large migrant population that lags behind in educational and labour market outcomes. How can Berlin's higher education institutions capitalise on their long tradition of professionally relevant learning and research to transform social, economic and environmental challenges into assets and opportunities? What incentives are needed to improve higher education institutions' regional and local orientation? Read the report [here](#).

### Web 2.0

This collaborative space has been designed to help regions to share their experiences of the review process. To register go to <http://community.oecd.org>

Fourteen regions and city-regions participate in the second round of OECD Reviews of Higher Education in Regional Development in 2009-2010. To learn more about the regions please visit our dedicated website where you can also find the contact details of the regional co-ordinators.  
[www.oecd.org/edu/imhe/regionaldevelopment](http://www.oecd.org/edu/imhe/regionaldevelopment)



## HE & Regions is now on Facebook

OECD Higher Education in Regional and City Development Facebook site is available [here](#).

It provides an interactive platform for communication and sharing experience in the OECD reviews as well as HEIs' role in local and regional engagement to access this site, you will need to have/create a Facebook account

OECD Higher Education in Regional and City Development are also on [Twitter](#), [Youtube](#) and [Google Maps](#).

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### Staff News

Inmaculada PERIÁÑEZ FORTE, Seconded, joined the IMHE review programme on Higher Education in Regions in July from the Regional Government of Andalusia.

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### Staff

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### Recent publications

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#### Education Today and Trends Shaping Education 2010

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#### International Migration Outlook 2010

This publication analyses recent developments in migration movements and policies in OECD countries. It also includes two topical issues: Public opinions and migration; Impact of naturalisation on the labour market outcomes of immigrants.

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#### OECD Employment Outlook 2011



The OECD Employment Outlook provides an annual assessment of labour market developments and prospects in member countries.

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